

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN2462 AIR FORCE nominations (70) beginning KIMBERLYN. BARR, and ending BENJAMIN D. YOUNGQUIST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2463 AIR FORCE nominations (61) beginning NATHAN J. ABEL, and ending BAI LAN ZHU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2464 AIR FORCE nominations (91) beginning BILLY S. ALLEN, and ending JOSHUA D. WILD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2465 AIR FORCE nominations (302) beginning ALLEN Y. AGNES, and ending JOSE L. ZAMBRANO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2466 AIR FORCE nominations (10) beginning DANIEL A. BUNCH, and ending MICHAEL WILLIAM SUDEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2467 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning DEAR BELOVED, and ending JOHN T. SZCZEPANSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of August 3, 2022.

PN2595 AIR FORCE nominations (60) beginning KARLA E. ADAMS, and ending JESSE M. WICKHAM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2022.

PN2597 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning JACQUELINE E. BVLGARI, and ending KELLY L. VERMILLION, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 8, 2022.

PN2645 AIR FORCE nomination of Keenan E. Dalrymple, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2646 AIR FORCE nomination of Susan D. Baumgartner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2647 AIR FORCE nomination of Stigen A. Westberg, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2648 AIR FORCE nomination of Beau D. Graham, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2649 AIR FORCE nomination of Kristen M. Barra, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2650 AIR FORCE nomination of Evans R. Wright, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

PN2776 AIR FORCE nomination of Jeremy A. Krohngold, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of November 17, 2022.

PN2801 AIR FORCE nomination of Chandramouli Rajaram, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

IN THE ARMY

PN2425 ARMY nomination of Sean P. Hutchison, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 27, 2022.

PN2527 ARMY nomination of Andrew K. Arrington, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 6, 2022.

PN2802 ARMY nomination of Christopher A. Kreiler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2803 ARMY nominations (3) beginning MICHAEL A. RIZZOTTI, and ending BRETT C. SHEPARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2804 ARMY nomination of Ronald W. Sprang, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2805 ARMY nomination of Ryan C. Agee, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2806 ARMY nomination of Philip J. Deaguilera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2807 ARMY nomination of Brian C. Beldowicz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

PN2808 ARMY nomination of Christopher A. Benson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN2809 MARINE CORPS nominations (108) beginning DAVID AHN, and ending JAY M. ZARRA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

IN THE NAVY

PN2810 NAVY nomination of Tapeka C. Pringle, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of December 7, 2022.

IN THE SPACE FORCE

PN2656 SPACE FORCE nomination of Ashton M. Shelton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 15, 2022.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. KING. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 1259, 1260, 1294, 1295, and 1296; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the en bloc nominations of Kathleen Ann Kavalec, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Romania; Jessica Davis Ba, of the District of Columbia, a Career Member of the Senior

Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire; Henry C. Leventis, of Tennessee, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee for the term of four years; Michael D. Black, of Ohio, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Ohio for the term of four years; and Catrina A. Thompson, of North Carolina, to be United States Marshal for the Middle District of North Carolina for the term of four years?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, stop me if you have heard this one before: Two atoms walk into a bar, they collide into one other at extreme speeds, under extreme heat, and they leave later that evening combined—as one, single element.

The process I have just described is known as nuclear fusion. For the past 60 years, it is a process that has only existed in theory—written on chalkboards and debated in lecture halls. But last week, everything changed, when the brilliant minds at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California made a breakthrough. For the first time in human history, these American researchers achieved what is known as fusion ignition.

They constructed the world's largest laser system—the size of a sports stadium—to recreate conditions that can only be found in the cores of stars and giant planets. And they harnessed that power to combine two particles into one, and as a result, they created more energy than was used to start the process. In other words, these federally funded researchers achieved a scientific feat that could pave the way for unlimited, carbon-free energy. And in the words of our Secretary of Energy, Jennifer Granholm, it is a breakthrough that “[only] happened because we invested in our national labs . . . and we invested in fundamental research.”

Now, let's be clear, this technology is a long way off from powering our homes and businesses, but it is a revolutionary proof of concept. These American researchers have proven that nuclear fusion—and, potentially, a carbon-free future—are possible.

And this remarkable breakthrough is a return to form for America: Throughout our history, our government has funded the revolutionary research considered too risky for investors in the private sector—the kinds of discoveries